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Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00
SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07 L-03
NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 AF-10 ARA-10
EA-07 EUR-12 NEA-10 /104 W
----------084174 110327Z /65
O 110243Z AUG 77
FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4832

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 USUN 2558

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, UN, RQ, CU
SUBJECT: COMMITTEE OF 24: PUERTO RICO

REF: USUN 2541

1. BEGIN SUMMARY: NORWAY'S DEPUTY PERM REP AND VICE CHAIRMAN OF COMMITTEE OF 24 (C-24) VRAALSEN HAS BEEN INTOUCH WITH CUBAN DELEGATION REGARDING C-24'S PENDING (AUGUST 15-17) CONSIDERATION OF PUERTO RICO. WHILE CUBANS HAVE GIVEN VRAALSEN TEXT FOR DRAFT RESOLUTION, VRAALSEN BELIEVES THAT CUBANS WISH TO AVOID VOTE AND, THEREFORE, WITH HARD WORK BY FRIENDLY DELEGATIONS, STATEMENT BY C-24 CHAIRMAN MAY AGAIN PROVE FEASIBLE. END SUMMARY.

2. VRAALSEON HAS PROVIDED AMBASSADOR MCHENRY WITH TEXT OF DRAFT RESOLUTION GIVEN VRAALSEN BY CUBANS. VRAALSEN STATES DRAFT NOT WORK OF CUBANS BUT RATHER SOME "CUBAN-SUPPORTED" POLITICAL GROUP IN PUERTO RICO.

3. VRAALSEON EXPECTS CUBA'S PERM REP ALARCON TO RETURN TO NEW YORK ON OR ABOUT AUGUST 13 SO AS TO BE HERE FOR START OF C-24 CONSIDERATION OF PUERTO RICO ON AUGUST 15 OR 16. VRAALSON BELIEVES THAT CUBANS WISH TO AVOID VOTE
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IN C-24 AND THAT, WITH HARD WORK BY FRIENDLY DELEGATIONS, STATEMENT ACCEPTABLE TO C-24 BY CHAIRMAN MAY AGAIN PROVE FEASIBLE. VRAALSEON POINTED OUT TO MCHENRY THAT CUBAN MISSOFF SALADO VILLACIN, THOUGH CLEARLY DESIRING TO DEFUSE CUBA'S ROLE IN PUERTO RICAN QUESTION, NEVERTHELESS FELT IT NECESSARY THAT C-24 GO SOMEWHAT BEYOND SUBSTANCE OF STATEMENT READ BY COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN IN 1976.

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4. ON BASIS CONVERSATION WITH CUBAN, VRAALSEON BELIEVED THAT ACCEPTABLE STATEMENT BY CHAIRMANCOULD BE DESIGNED INCORPORATING SUBSTANCE OF PREAMBULAR PARAS, AS WELL AS OF OPERATIVE PARAS 1, 3, AND 6 OF DRAFT RESOLUTION. VRAALSEN RECOGNIZED DIFFICULTIES PRESENTED BY OPERATIVE PARA 3, BUT HOPED SATISFACTORY FORMULA MIGHT EVOLVE.

5. TEXT OF DRAFT RESOLUTION AS SUPPLIED VRAALSEON BY CUBANS FOLLOWS: BEGIN TEXT:
THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE,

HAVING CONSIDERED THE QUESTION OF PUERTO RICO IN THE LIGHT OF RESOLUTION 1514 (XV) AND ITS RESOLUTIONS ON THIS ITEM ACCORDED IN 1972, 1973, AS WELL AS THE DECISION ADOPTED BY CONSENSUS IN 1976 AS SUMMARIZED BY THE CHAIRMAN UPON CONCLUSION OF THE DEBATE ON THE ITEM;

TAKING NOTE WITH APPRECIATION OF THE REPORT SUB-MITTED BY THE RAPPORTEUR, DOC. A/AC109/L.1191, 2 AUGUST 1977 IN COMPLIANCE WITH LAST YEAR'S DECISION;

AFTER RECEIVING THE TESTIMONIES OF SEVERAL PETITIONERS FROM PUERTO RICO, THE UNITED STATES AND CONFIDENTIAL

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THE WORLD PEACE COUNCIL;

MINDFUL OF THE POSITIONS ADOPTED BY THE FIFTH SUMMIT MEETING OF THE NONALIGNED NATIONS HELD IN COLOMBO, SRI LANKA IN AUGUST 1976, AS WELL AS THE MINISTERIAL MEETING OF THE BUREAU OF SAID NONALINED NATIONS HELD IN NEW DELHI, INDIA IN APRIL 1977 WITH RESPECT TO THE QUESTION OF PUERTO RICO;

ACKNOWLEDGING THE VIEW EXPRESSED BY THE DELEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA IN ITS LETTER TO THE RAPPORTEUR OF 16 MAY 1977, WHERE IT IS STATED THAT THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT IS WILLING TO ABIDE BY THE DEICISIONS OF THE PUERTO RICAN PEOPLE IN FULL EXERCISE OF ITS SELF-DETERMINATION;
1. REAFFIRMS THE INALIENABLE RIGHT OF THE POEPLE OF PUERTO RICO TO SELF-DETERMINATION AND INDEPENDENCE IN ACCORDANCE WITH GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION 1514(XV) OF 14 DECEMBER 1960 AND ITS RESOLUTIONS OF 28 AUGUST 1972 AND 30 AUGUST 1973 CONCERNING PUERTO RICO; THUS ASSERTING ITS JURISDICTION ON THIS QUESTION.

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2. URGES THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES TO TAKE IMMEDIATE STEPS TO TRANSFER ALL POWERS TO THE PEOPLE OF PUERTO RICO SO THAT SAID PEOPLE MAY FULLY EXERCISE ITS RIGHT TO SELF-DETERMINATION AND IN-DEPENDENCE IN THE MANNER AND THROUGH THE MECHANISMS THAT THEY MAY CHOOSE IN THE FREE USE OF THEIR SOVEREIGN POWERS;

3. REQUESTS THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO ABSTAIN, IN THE MEANTIME, FROM TAKING ANY MEASURES THAT COULD WEAKEN THE FULL DEVELOPMENT AND NATIONAL INTEGRITY OF THE PUERTO RICAN PEOPLE DIRECTED TO STEER THE DECISIONS OF SAID PUERTO RICAN PEOPLE OR FROM EXPLOITING OR IN ANY FORM BENEFITING, CONFIDENTIAL

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DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY, FROM THE EXPLOITATION OF THE NATURAL RESOURCES OF PUERTO RICO, ESPECIALLY THE OIL AND NATURAL GAS DEPOSITS RECENTLY DISCOVERED IN THE COASTAL SEABED OF THE ISLAND AS WELL AS INLAND;

4. CONSIDERES IT ADVISABLE TO SEND A VISITING MISSION TO PUERTO RICO, AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, AND PREFERABLY IN EARLY 1978 AND REQUESTS THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO EXTEND ITS CO-OPERATION IN ORDER TO FACILITATE THE DISPATCH OF SAID MISSION.

5. ASKS THAT THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA DECREE THE IMMEDIATE AND UNCONDITIONAL RELEASE OF THE FIVE PUERTO RICAN NATIONALISTS THAT ARE IMPRISONED IN FREDERAL PENAL INSTITUTIONS IN THE UNITED STATES;

6. DECIDES TO KEEP THE QUESTION UNDER CONTINUOUS REVIEW. END TEXT.

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 USUN 2558

6. VRAALSEON HOPES TO DISCUSS LANGUAGE FOR POSSIBLE CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT WITH US ON AUGUST 11. WITH THIS IN MIND, USUN HAS DRAWN UP LANGUAGE FOR PRELIMINARY USE WITH VRAALSEON. WE WOULD APPRECIATE DEPARTMENT'S VIEWS. TEXT FOLLOWS:
"REAFFIRMING THE INALIENABLE RIGHT OF THE PEOPLE OF PUERTO RICO TO SELF-DETERMINATION INCLUDING INDEPENDENCE IN ACCORDANCE WITH GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION 1514(XV) OF 14 DECEMBER 1960 AND BY VIRTUE OF THAT RIGHT TO DETERMINE FREELY ITS POLITICAL STATUS AND TO PURSUE FREELY ITS SOCIAL,CULTURAL AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT INCLUDING EXPLOITATION OF ITS ON-SHORE AND OFF-SHORE RESOURCES; BEARING IN MIND THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE'S RESOLUTIONS OF 28 AUGUST 1972 AND 30 AUGUST 1973 CONCERNING PUERTO RICO;
TAKING NOTE WITH APPRECIATION OF THE REPORT SUB-MITTED BY ITS RAPPORTEUR (A/AC109/L.1191, 2 AUGUST 1967, AND ADDENDUM) IN COMPLIANCE WITH LAST YEAR'S DECISION; HAVING HEARD STATEMENTS OF PETITIONERS AND MEMBERS DURING THE DEBATE; AND FURTHER NOTING THE POSITIONS ADOPTED ON PUERTO RICO BY THE FIFTH SUMMIT MEETING OF THE NONALIGNED NATIONS IN COLOMBO IN AUGUST 1976 AS WELL AS BY THE MINISTERIAL MEETING OF THE COORDINATING COMMITTEE OF THE NONALIGNED NATIONS IN NEW DELHI IN APRIL 1977, THE CONFIDENTIAL

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SPECIAL COMMITTEE DECIDES TO RESUME DISCUSSION OF THE ITEM AT ITS NEXT SESSION WHILE IN THE MEANTIME HAVING FULLY IN MIND THE LETTER OF 16 MAY 1977 TO THE RAPPORTEUR FROM THE DELEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA STATING THAT THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA WILL SUPPORT WHATEVER STATUS THE PEOPLE OF PUERTO RICO WISH, BUT THAT THE INITIATIVE FOR ANY CHANGE SHOULD COME FROM THEM."
LEONARD

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Message Attributes

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Sent Date: 11-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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Errors: N/A
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Subject: COMMITTEE OF 24: PUERTO RICO
TAGS: PFOR, PDEV, PORG, RQ, CU, UN, C-24
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